Wichita, Kan. - As the group of ten bowlers embraced each other at the end of the lanes, the Lady Shockers took one step closer to their eighth National Championship.

While the Shocker women did make it to the finals, the journey took a bit longer than planned. The women entered the day undefeated and were matched up against Central Florida University in the semi-final match.

The Golden Knights took an early lead as they claimed the first match 169-181. The Shockers then rebounded throwing a turkey in the fifth through seventh frames of the second game, winning with ease 226-159. In game three, Elysia Current doubled off of Emily Maier's strike in the ninth frame as the Shockers closed out the match 200-193.

However, the Golden Knights rebounded and went on to win the next three matches 206-189, 216-203, and 225-168; giving the Shockers their first loss of the tournament.

Due to the tournament's double elimination format the two teams met up again to determine who would go to the finals.

This time the Shockers took an early lead as they came out with a powerful 237-171 victory. After a close 179-170 loss in game two, the women rebounded as Maier threw an important strike to capitalize on a Central Florida split. Current stayed clean in the tenth frame and the Shockers won the match 190-188. After two close games, the women left nothing to chance as they easily won the following game 224-165.

As the Shockers sat one game away for a title match appearance, the ladies found themselves in another close match. After leaving a split in the eighth frame, Felicia Wong made a clutch conversion and pushed the Shockers to the win, 207-199.
The Shockers will now meet up with McKendree College Bearcats from Lebanon, Ill. The Bearcats are still undefeated this tournament, as they won their first match this morning. However, the format for the final match changes as the winner of the match is crowned champion regardless of one or no losses. Also, the teams will play a best of three baker format, instead of the seven game format that has been used until this point.

The men's and women's championship matches will be recorded by College Sports Television (CSTV) to be replayed at a later date. The Shocker women will now step in front of the cameras and surrounded bleacher seating as they try to complete their season.

The men's final consisting of defending champions Saginaw Valley State and Robert Morris University is scheduled to begin at 3:15 p.m. with the women's final of Wichita State University and McKendree College directly following.

Also check www.bowl.com for frame by frame scoring of both championship matches as well as www.wichita.edu/bowling for current news releases and pictures.

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The Rhatigan Student Center has been the major financial and administrative supporter of the Wichita State University bowling program since 1959